

Patrick's Day in New York City. I know that my distinguished colleagues will join me in extending our appreciation and gratitude to all of the brave members of the armed forces serving in the National Guard and the Reserve, who are so courageously and selflessly dedicated to their fellow Americans.

The National Guard is an integral part of a great American military tradition that began during the American Revolution. At that time, our Founding Fathers placed the country's security in the hands of citizen-soldiers who trained and organized into militias in their home colonies. To this day, members of the National Guard must be ready to serve their state and their country, often at a moment's notice.

Headquartered in the historic Armory on Lexington Avenue—one of a dwindling number of armories remaining in our nation's greatest city—the members of the 1st Battalion, 69th Infantry continue to uphold a distinguished tradition in both battle and disaster response. As part of the famous Irish Brigade during the Civil War, the members of the 69th Infantry were renowned for their tenacity on the battlefield, leading Confederate General Robert E. Lee to bestow upon them the nickname of "The Fighting 69th." In acknowledgment of its proud heritage, the Fighting 69th participates each year in New York's world-renowned St. Patrick's Day Parade.

The Fighting 69th are infantry soldiers—the "boots on the ground"—whose mission is to engage and destroy enemy forces in close combat. In addition to the Civil War, its members have also fought in the Spanish-American War, World War I and World War II, when its soldiers served valiantly in the battles of Makin, Saipan and Okinawa. Its members completed a tour of duty in Iraq, returning to the U.S. after serving with distinction. The battalion mobilized more than 300 soldiers to support Task Force Phoenix VII during its deployment to Afghanistan in 2008 and 2009, when four of its members paid the ultimate sacrifice for their country and were killed in action.

During the current conflict in Iraq, 19 members of the Fighting 69th were killed in action, including a member who was one of the New York firefighters who first raised the American flag above Ground Zero, Christian Engledrum. Six members of the 69th Regiment were awarded Purple Hearts in April, 2006 after being wounded by roadside bombs in Iraq. The unit patrolled the infamous road to the Baghdad airport and was stationed primarily in the Sunni Triangle, where many insurgent attacks have taken place.

The members of the Regiment also have mobilized during times of emergency in their home state of New York. The Fighting 69th was the first National Guard unit to arrive on the scene following the devastating terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001. In the hours after the attacks, the Battalion assisted medical teams treating the wounded and provided significant assistance to rescue and recovery operations, continuing in this mission for nearly a year. For several months following the attacks, the members of the Fighting 69th guarded the bridges and tunnels that ring New York City.

Madam Speaker, in recognition of its tremendous contributions to civic and public life, I request that my colleagues join me in paying tribute to the Fighting 69th Regiment of the

New York State National Guard, whose members are great New Yorkers and great Americans. All patriots should be grateful for the dedication demonstrated every day by the men and women of the Fighting 69th as well as all of the brave individuals serving in National Guard and Reserve units throughout our great country. The Fighting 69th Regiment's service to our country inspires us all.

HONORING TRUMAN ALLEN AND SUSAN L. MOORE

HON. TIMOTHY V. JOHNSON

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 18, 2009

Mr. JOHNSON of Illinois. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Truman Allen and Susan L. Moore for their contributions to the Young Men's Christian Association.

Truman Allen Moore was born to Truman E. and Margaret Allen Moore with three siblings. Truman married the love of his life Susan L. Lacy at the beginning of his post-graduate education on August 19, 1967. They have a daughter and a son, Amanda and Mark. Truman obtained a Bachelor of Science in Business in 1967 and a Master of Science in Education from Eastern Illinois University in 1971.

Truman's first job for the YMCA was an Assistant Physical Director in Danville while in his post-graduate education. From this position, he rose to Program Director in Paris then to Kewanee. Truman was promoted to Executive Director of YMCA Youth and Government at Kewanee in 1974. He then served this position at Knox County from 1978–2001 and Champaign County for two years before becoming President of YMCA Youth and Government.

Lester Y. and Luella C. Lacy had a daughter named Susan L. Moore on October 16, 1944. She grew up with a brother and a sister. Susan graduated from Kansas High School in 1962 as the Valedictorian. She went on to obtain a Bachelor of Arts in Education from DePauw University in Indiana in 1966 and a Master of Science in Education from Eastern Illinois University in 1971.

She began her professional life by becoming a teacher at the grade school level. Susan served Illinois in towns Flossmoor, Danville, and Charleston while pursuing her Master's. She worked at the Wethersfield School in Kewanee as a reading specialist for second graders while volunteering with the YMCA Youth and Government. She became its secretary in 1979 before becoming the Program Director in 2001.

I hope all of you will join me in recognizing Truman and Susan Moore for their contributions to the YMCA and their communities.

HONORING RODOLFO SANTAYAN

HON. ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 18, 2009

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Madam Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize the extraordinary life and work of Rodolfo Santayana, a Cuban refugee turned entrepre-

neurial pioneer who recently had the intersection of SW 8th St. and SW 122nd Ave. in Miami named in his honor.

Mr. Santayana arrived in the United States after fleeing the despotic Castro regime of his beloved Cuba. He was only seventeen, but managed to help provide for his family by holding two jobs as a paperboy and a gas station attendant.

However, it would not take him long to discover his calling in the family business. His father, Rodolfo Santayana, Sr. sold jewelry door-to-door in Cuba and beseeched Rodolfo Jr. to seek out his old customers in Cuba who also found refuge from the tyranny of Castro in South Florida.

After studying jewelry design at Miami's Lindsey Hopkins Technical Education Center, he took on his father's request, opening his own store on the street that now bears his name.

He was highly regarded in South Florida not only for the beauty of his work but also for his ability to honor the Cuban heritage with his jewelry. He incorporated some of the symbols of his lost, but far from forgotten, Cuba: palm trees, ox pulled carts full of sugar cane and Cuban silver coins.

It is a testament to the greatness of our country that a man driven from his home to America with only a suitcase full of hopes could use his talent and drive to forge a remarkable life for himself. Now, he is remembered as one of Miami's most prominent businessman and jewelry artisans, even after his death.

May he be remembered, not only on his street in Miami, but by the entire nation for his beautiful portrayals of a free Cuba.

IN HONOR OF JIM WINESTOCK

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 18, 2009

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Jim Winestock, an outstanding Atlanta, GA, citizen who in February retired from a 40-year career with the United Parcel Service (UPS). In his most recent role as the Senior Vice President of U.S. Operations, Mr. Winestock was responsible for all package operations in the United States, including the pick up and delivery of more than 15.8 million packages each day. Mr. Winestock leaves a tremendous legacy of leadership, not only within the UPS organization, but in the business world in general.

A Greenville, SC, native, Mr. Winestock joined UPS in 1969 as a part-time package loader while attending Massey College in Jacksonville, FL. After graduation, he was promoted into management and worked in a broad range of jobs with increasing responsibility across Florida and Georgia. In 1992, he was promoted to vice president and Chief Operating Officer of the Northeast Texas District, then in 1996 he assumed responsibility for the Missouri District. Mr. Winestock was promoted again in 1998 to president of the Midwest Region, then became president of the North Central Region in 2000. In 2004, he was named Senior Vice President of U.S. Operations, the position he would hold for the duration of his UPS career.

Today I honor Mr. Winestock not only for his distinguished career, but also for his service that extends far beyond the meaning of his title. In addition to his responsibilities as Senior Vice President of U.S. Operations, Mr. Winestock served as the coordinator of UPS Corporate Schools, the company's management training program, and participated in the UPS Community Internship Program at the University of Tennessee-Chattanooga. In addition to his numerous career accomplishments, Mr. Winestock sits on the Board of Directors of the National Urban League and also is a trustee of the MARCH Foundation.

I am truly honored to be able to call Mr. Winestock a fellow Georgian. His hard work and dedication are rare traits. I thank him for his years of service and I wish him luck and Godspeed in the next phase of his life.

TRIBUTE TO SGT. MICHAEL ESPOSITO

HON. STEVE ISRAEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 18, 2009

Mr. ISRAEL. Madam Speaker, Today I honor the service and memory of Sgt. Michael Esposito, of Brentwood New York. On March 18th, 2004 Sgt. Esposito led his unit into a hostile compound, hoping to neutralize the threat from within. Working to secure the facility, Sgt. Esposito cleared three rooms, exposing himself to incredible danger by leading from the front of his team. Despite the presence of hostile fire, Michael approached a previously unidentified area, remaining ahead of his men. Sadly, the enemy engaged as he advanced, inflicting a mortal wound on Michael, and a grievous injury on all who knew him.

Sgt. Esposito's team—inspired by his courage and leadership—achieved their objective in the wake of tragedy. Assuming the lead position, as he so often did, Michael displayed the heroism that remains an inspiration to his fellow platoon members. On that day, and always, Michael displayed a willingness to put the welfare of others before his own. Through selfless acts of leadership, he provided an example to which all of us should aspire.

For Michael's bravery, sacrifice, and service, I am deeply thankful. For his enduring commitment to defending our safety and ideals, we are all deeply indebted.

On this, the five-year anniversary of Michael's tragic passing, the words of a brother in arms speak volumes about his character. His platoon leader, 1st Lieutenant James Howell, said of Sgt. Esposito "[he] was one of the most selfless leaders I have ever known . . . The platoon, and especially all of his men, took his loss hard. It is impossible to forget a leader like Michael Esposito."

A soldier, a friend, and a man of immense integrity, Michael will always retain a firm grasp on our memories. Today, our nation remembers the tragic loss of a cherished citizen, fallen hero, beloved brother, and adored son. Dedicated in his commitment to country and lasting in his impact on those blessed to have called him friend, Michael is and will forever be, sorely missed.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE WOMEN'S ISSUES NETWORK OF THE PANCYPRIAN ASSOCIATION

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 18, 2009

Mrs. MALONEY. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor the Women's Issues Network (WIN) of the Pancyprian Association of America. This month WIN honors Joanna Savvides as Woman of the Year and Evi Rafti and Eleftheria Saittis as Members of the Year at its annual dinner-dance.

Founded in 1996, WIN works on behalf of the Cypriot-American community to pave the way to success for future generations of Hellenic Americans and to promote Cypriot culture. WIN sponsors numerous cultural, health and educational programs, including breast and cervical cancer screenings for uninsured women. Additionally, WIN is committed to ending the decades-long Turkish occupation of Cyprus. This year, WIN honors the distinguished international entrepreneur Joanna Savvides. Born in Cyprus, Joanna immigrated with her family to America in 1980. She has served as President of the World Trade Center of Greater Philadelphia since its foundation in October 2002. Under her leadership, the non-profit helped 400 small and medium-sized companies expand on the international level, contributing to a surge in the volume of goods exported by businesses in New Jersey and Pennsylvania. She also serves as an adjunct professor at St. Joseph's University in Philadelphia. Renowned for her cross cultural and international business expertise, she is frequently sought after as a lecturer. Joanna serves as the President of the Cyprus Society of Greater Philadelphia and was a founder and director of the Cypriot Dancers of Greater Philadelphia. An accomplished linguist, her knowledge of six languages has proven invaluable in international trade. Joanna's achievements have been honored by many organizations. The Philadelphia Business Journal recognized her with the Women of Distinction Award. She has also been honored with the Global Business Award from the United Nations Association of Greater Philadelphia, the Global Leadership Award from the Consular Corps Association of Philadelphia, the Heritage Preservation Award from the Cyprus Society of Greater Philadelphia, and the Artemis Award from the European American Business Council. More than these many honors, however, Joanna cherishes her husband, George, and her children, Andreas and Renos.

WIN honors Evi Rafti as its Member of the Year for her efforts to further knowledge, understanding, and appreciation of Cypriot culture. Born the youngest of six children in Mosfiloti, Larnaca, she studied at Academia Thileon in Nicosia. Shortly after marrying her husband Christos, they immigrated to New York in 1969. Evi has retained a strong commitment to Cypriot culture as an active member of the vibrant Cypriot-American community in our nation's greatest city. During her years of volunteering, she has helped plan numerous special events such as parades, charity and non-profit fundraisers, and demonstrations. Over the past ten years, she has also served as a dedicated member of the Board of

Directors of the Pancyprian Dance Group. The mother of three children, Panayiota, Tatiana, and Stavro, she has instilled in them a love of Cypriot culture by inspiring their participation in the Pancyprian Dance Group and youth groups, and the Eleftheria soccer team.

WIN honors Eleftheria Saittis as Member of the Year for her dedication to the Cypriot community. Born in the village of Agios Theodoros Karpasias (now under Turkish occupation), she graduated with a diploma in fashion design from the Professional School New Horizon in Famagusta. To continue her education, Eleftheria immigrated to New York. Her family joined her after the Turkish invasion of Cyprus in 1974. Eleftheria is a dedicated and generous member of the Cyprian community. She devotes much of her time and energy to serving on the Pancyprian Dance Group's Board of Directors. She also works as a teacher's aide for the New York City Department of Education. She is devoted to her husband, Michalis, and her children, Prodromos, Konstantine and Konstantina. One of her proudest moments occurred when she graduated from the City University of New York with her granddaughter Evangelia in attendance.

Madam Speaker, I request that my esteemed colleagues join me in paying tribute to the Women's Issues Network of the Pancyprian Association of America and its distinguished honorees, Joanna Savvides, Evi Rafti, and Eleftheria Saittis.

HONORING MRS. MARY ELLEN MENDELSON

HON. CAROLYN MCCARTHY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 18, 2009

Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor my friend and colleague, Mrs. Mary Ellen Mendelsohn, upon her retirement from the Federal Government. Public service is one of the most honorable and important professions an individual can choose. Mrs. Mendelsohn is at the top of her profession, working on campaigns and in government offices for more than 25 years.

Mrs. Mendelsohn earned her degree at Boston University and later went on to become District Director to former US Congressman Robert Mrazek. She later worked as Mr. Mrazek's Deputy Campaign Director during his bid for the United States Senate.

Mrs. Mendelsohn later became the President, MC Communications, a Public Relations and Intergovernmental Affairs Firm, assisting clients like the Town of Huntington, Child Abuse Prevention Services of Long Island, Housing All Americans, and the Columbia University Department of Oral History obtain grants from the public and private sector. All the while, she simultaneously and effectively managed campaigns for Hynes for New York State Attorney General and raised funds for New York State Assemblyman Thomas DiNapoli.

After successfully assisting Brooklyn DA Charles J. Hynes, Mrs. Mendelsohn was appointed the Director, Government and Community Affairs, Office of the District Attorney, Kings County, New York. She remained in this